



July 10, 2006

LIGHTNING 6 NOTE # 5 – ARMY FAMILY TEAM BUILDING

AFTB training contributes to the overall well being of the Army Family. AFTB is a volunteer-led organization with a central tenet: provide training and knowledge to spouses and family members to support the total Army effort. Strong families are the pillar of support behind strong Soldiers. The strength of the program comes from its volunteers. Family members who contribute their time and energy grow both personally and professionally. Volunteer instructors are needed to rebuild the core of this vital program.

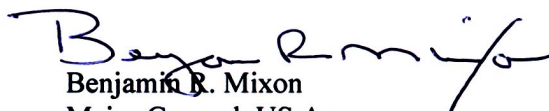
ACS provides a no-cost comprehensive training program that allows a volunteer to become an instructor locally, then attend Department of Army Master Training and, if desired, can move on to be a core instructor training master trainers in select locations throughout the world. It is AFTB's mission to educate and train all of the Army in knowledge, skills, and behaviors designed to prepare our Army families to move successfully in to the future. Please consider giving your time to the Schofield Barracks AFTB program and supporting the total Army effort.

AFTB contributes to the Army mission by educating and training the Army family to be self-sufficient leaders within their communities. AFTB Level I focuses on the basic skills and knowledge needed to live the military life. Level II allows the participant to grow into a community leader. Finally, Level III focuses on inspiring and mentoring others in to leadership positions. Army Community Service currently provides two half-day and one-full day monthly training. This will be expanded to meet unit demand as the volunteer corps is developed and trained.

Commanders will schedule and encourage attendance at AFTB training for all first and midterm spouses in their units. Soldiers will be allowed and encouraged to attend the training. If the Soldier has children and their spouse is scheduled to attend the training, then the Soldier will be granted the time off to take care of the children while the spouse attends.

Army Family Team Building improves communication with the chain of command, the chain of concern, Family Readiness Groups and the Rear Detachment. Most importantly, Army Family Team Building improves the family's ability to access information about the unit and community resources. Support this vital program.

Tropic Lightning!


Benjamin R. Mixon
Major General, US Army
Commanding